ters against some recognised schools in Delhi for violating education norms and indulging in exploitation of children and parents by way of extorting money in the name of building fund etc. and if so, the names of such schools; and

(b) what action has been taken against them and if no action has been taken so far, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Railway complimentary passes to Christian Missionaries

1144. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to issue few All India or Regional Free Complimentary Passes to Christian Missionaries;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and whether such facility will be given to other religions also; and

(c) what are the details of the Christian Missionaries who have been given such passes, and the period for which the passes have been given in last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No All India Passes have been issued to Christian Missionaries, as such. One All India Complimentary Pass has, however, been issued to the Missionaries of Charity, Calcutta, headed by Mother Teresa in view of her distinguished social work which is recognised worldwide and for which she has been awarded the Prestigious Nobel Prize.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Central University in Assam

1145. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to the Unstarred Question 1465 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th November, 1986 and state :

(a) whether location of the proposed University to be set up in Assam has since been finally decided upon;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposed site; and

(c) what specific steps have been so far taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) No decision has so far been taken regarding the location of the proposed Central University in Assam

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Recommendation of the Working Group on Core Content of Freedom Movement

1146. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the recommendations made by the Working Group set up for the preparation of suitable material on the history of Indian Freedom movement; and

(b) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) The recommendations of the Working Group set up on teaching of Indian Freedom movement in schools is given in the attached statement (*see* below) :

(b) The NECRT and the States/UTs have been requested to initiate necessary steps for graded introduction of the history of Indian Freedom Movement in schools at all levels on the lines recommended by the Working Group

Statement

The main Recommendations of the Working Group set up under the Chair-

manship of Prof. G. C. Pande on teaching of Indian Freedom movement in schools are as follows :—

(i) To improve the existing syllabi and instructional materials and, where necessary, prepare new ones on the base of broad guidelines and broad framework for each stage of school education as well as in each of the concerned subjects, viz. Environmental Studies (Social Studies) at the lower primary stage, History at the upper primary and secondary stages, Civics (and elements of Political Science) at the upper primary and secondary stages and Economics at the secondary stage. The emergence of modern Indian polity with its basis features of secularism, democracy, socialism, equality and social justice and independent India's role in world affairs cannot be properly understood without the perspective of the freedom movement.

(ii) The recommended syllabus framework provides guidelines regarding instructions at different levels. It would form a part of a syllabus in general education upto class X and, therefore, would be compulsory.

(iii) The Working Group recommended co-curricular activities like music, dance, songs, plays, cartoons, debates, essay competitions, charts, posters, film, visits, quizs, etc.

(iv) It was recommended that each State Govt. may set up its own textbook review Committee keeping in view the guidelines prepared by the NCERT. The NCERT may do sample evaluation.

(v) It has recommended coverage of the topic by way of appropriate instructional material in languages and Social Studies (History and Civics) emphasising the following points :

(a) The coverage should include aspects of freedom movement which tend to be excluded like the role of common people in the freedom movement;

(b) Coverage of leaders and movements in different parts of the country to give the child an overall view of total national involvement in th freedom struggle; and

(c) An overall view of the freedom movement by class VIII.

The Working Group has also recommended that the NCERT should carry out the following jobs in this context :

(i) guidelines and material relating to freedom movement and biographies of leaders for coverage in other subjects;

(ii) list of books to be in schools for covering freedom movement;

(iii) dictionary of national biography for school children for covering leaders from all regions in the country;

(iv) preparation of sample lessons for inclusion in language books;

(v) guidelines for authors;

(vi) guidelines and broad framework for improving textbooks and preparing new ones; and

(vii) The Working Group stressed importance of revising the curricula of teacher training institutions so that the recommendations of the Working Group are adequately reflected in the pre-service training of teachers.

Rail link with Agartala

1147. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in a resolution adopted by the Tripura Legislative Assembly recently, a unanimous demand has been raised for connecting Agartala with rail line; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The rail line to connect Agartala has, however, not been approved by the Planning Commission.